GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3120
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2002
CULTIVATION OF GOLDEN BAJRA
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Crop Research Institute of Semi Arid Tropies (ICRISAT), Hyderabad, have invented a new variety of Vitamin `A` Sogched Golden Bajra after prolonged research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the invention would help the Bajra-Growers in the country particularly in the areas where there is scarcity of water;

(d) if so, whether the Government intend to formulate any scheme to promote cultivation of Bajra in the country particularly in Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Scientists at International Crop Research Institute of Semi Arid Tropies (ICRISAT) have developed a yellow seeded breeding line of pearl millet which has higher vitamin A than the normal colour seeded variety.

(b) This yellow seeded line is a selection from an African variety from Burkina Faso and has stablised for yellow seed character.

(c), (d) & (e) : The developed pearl millet breeding line is photosensitive, late maturing and is not adapted for general cultivation as a variety in Indian conditions.